

Claims

- [c1] An automotive interior trim assembly, comprising:
a substrate; and
a storage compartment coupled to said substrate and adapted to store one or more items, said storage compartment comprising:
a compartment body defining a cavity adapted to store the one or more items and having an opening for gaining access to said cavity, said compartment body including at least one connecting member integrally formed therein made from a first material; and
a cover including at least one connecting member integrally formed therein and made from a second material having a different melting point from said first material, said at least one body connecting member cooperating with said at least one cover connecting member to couple said cover to said compartment body, said cover being moveable between an open position, wherein said cavity is accessible through said opening, and a closed position, wherein said cover overlies said opening.
- [c2] The trim assembly of claim 1, wherein said at least one body connecting member comprises at least one pro-

jecting portion extending therefrom, and wherein said at least one cover connecting member comprises at least one receiving portion therein which receives said at least one projecting portion.

[c3] The trim assembly of claim 2, wherein said at least one projecting portion defines a pin.

[c4] The trim assembly of claim 2, wherein said at least one receiving portion defines a bore.

[c5] The trim assembly of claim 1, wherein said at least one body connecting member includes a pair of spaced apart connecting members, each said connecting member having at least one projecting portion defining a pin having an enlarged distal end configured as a circular portion, and wherein said at least one cover connecting member includes one connecting member, said cover connecting member including a pair of spaced apart receiving portions, each receiving portion defining a bore having an enlarged receiving portion configured a circular recess, each said circular recess receiving one of said circular portions to couple said cover to said compartment body.

[c6] The trim assembly of claim 1, wherein said cover is pivotally movable between said open and closed position.

- [c7] The trim assembly of claim 1, wherein said first material is selected from the group consisting of polybutylene terephthalate and polyamide 12 and said second material is selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polyoxymethylene or polyamide 6.
- [c8] The trim assembly of claim 1, wherein said first material has a higher melting point than said second material.
- [c9] The trim assembly of claim 1 configured as a door panel.
- [c10] A method of forming an automotive storage compartment in a two-shot molding operation, comprising:
molding a first member as one of a compartment body and a cover having at least one connecting member by injecting a first curable material in a first shot of the molding operation;
forming a mold chamber about a portion of the at least one connecting member; and
molding a second member as the other one of the compartment body and the cover having at least one connecting member by injecting into the mold chamber a second curable material in a second shot of the molding operation, the second member being molded so that the at least one first member connecting member and the at least one second member connecting member are piv-

otally coupled together.

- [c11] The method of claim 10, wherein molding the first member comprises molding the compartment body having the at least one connecting member, and wherein molding the second member comprises molding the cover having the at least one connecting member.
- [c12] The method of claim 11, wherein the at least one body connecting member includes at least one projecting portion extending therefrom, and wherein the at least one cover connecting member includes at least one receiving portion therein, the at least one receiving portion molded around the at least one projecting portion so that the at least one body connecting member and the at least one cover connecting member are pivotally coupled together.
- [c13] The method of claim 12, wherein the at least one projecting portion defines a pin.
- [c14] The method of claim 12, wherein the at least one receiving portion defines a bore.
- [c15] The method of claim 10, wherein molding the first member comprises molding the compartment body having a pair of spaced apart connecting members, each of the body connecting members having at least one projecting

portion defining a pin having an enlarged distal end configured as a circular portion, and wherein molding the second member comprises molding the cover having one connecting member including a pair of spaced apart receiving portions, each receiving portion defining a bore having an enlarged receiving portion configured as a circular recess, each circular recess molded around one of the circular portions to pivotally couple the compartment body to the cover.

- [c16] The method of claim 10, wherein the first curable material has a higher melting point than the second curable material.
- [c17] The method of claim 10, wherein the first curable material is selected from the group consisting of polybutylene terephthalate and polyamide 12, and said second material is selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polyoxymethylene or polyamide 6.
- [c18] An assembly for an automotive interior, comprising:
a first member including at least one connecting member integrally formed therein made from a first material; and
a second member including at least one connecting member integrally formed therein and made from a second material having a different melting point from said first material, said at least one first member connecting

member cooperating with said at least one second member connecting member to pivotally couple said first member to said second member.

[c19] The assembly of claim 18, wherein said first member comprises a compartment body and said second member comprises a cover.

[c20] A method of forming an assembly for an automotive interior in a two-shot molding operation, comprising:
molding a first member having at least one connecting member by injecting a first curable material in a first shot of the molding operation;
forming a mold chamber about a portion of the at least one connecting member; and
molding a second member having at least one connecting member by injecting into the mold chamber a second curable material in a second shot of the molding operation, the second member being molded so that the at least one first member connecting member and the at least one second member connecting member are pivotally coupled together.